



Mr. Joffes at the dinner held in his honour in Cape Town by the Bnai Brith Bar Kochba Lodge last week. Left to right: Mr. L. Katz (Hon. Secretary of the Lodge), Mr. Saul Joffes, Mrs. Joffes, Mr. C. Fileman (President of the Lodge) and Mrs. L. Landecker (President of the Sisterhood).

S. AFRICA WILL HAVE SEATS ON WORLD BNAI BRITH

JOFTES OUTLINES PLANS AT JOHANNESBURG DINNER

Southern Africa will be represented on Bnai Brith's Governing Body and International Council as soon as Bnai Brith Lodges in the Republic and Rhodesia are organised under a District Grand Lodge for the sub-continent, Mr. Saul Joffes, Director-General of Bnai Brith's Office of International Affairs in Washington, told a dinner given in his honour by Johannesburg Bnai Brith at the Automobile Club, Killarney, on Monday evening.

In the mellow atmosphere of the club, the dinner, attended by a large gathering of Bnai Brith members, had an old-world graciousness, with tasteful floral decorations and candle light. Mrs. Diane James, President of the First Bnai Brith Women's Chapter in South Africa, made a charming Mistress of Ceremonies; Mr. Adolph James, President of the Bnai Brith Council of South Africa, warmly welcomed Mr. Joffes and recalled his previous visit to the Republic three years ago; Mr. Eustace Levitan, Vice-President of the Council, thanked Mr. Joffes for the inspiring message he brought. Mr. J. Protter, President of the Johannesburg Lodge, offered the benediction before dinner, and Mr. K. Morgenroth recited grace.

NEW MILESTONE

Mr. Joffes said this was an occasion which marked a new milestone for both Bnai Brith and South African Jewry. His previous visit had resulted in a Bnai Brith Council being set up in South Africa; his present visit was going to lead to the establishment of a District Grand Lodge. His current tour had laid the foundations for eight new Lodges in Pretoria, Benoni, Port Elizabeth and two more Lodges in Cape Town.

The tally of Bnai Brith Lodges in Southern Africa now brought the territory well within District Grand Lodge strength, and he looked forward to returning within a year to carry out that elevation.

District Grand Lodge status meant that Southern Africa would become an autonomous unit in the Bnai Brith chain, which now extended to 44 countries. They would bring the benefits of Bnai Brith's services to South Africa in many fields — most important, in the student field. In the U.S.A., Bnai Brith Hillel Foundations were doing outstanding work among Jewish students on the university campus, and there was no reason why, in co-operation with the Board of Deputies, similar services should not be rendered for Jewish students here.

Mr. Joffes said the highlight of his present visit had been his interview with the Prime Minister. Dr. Verwoerd had received him most cordially, and had shown a warm respect for the contributions which Jews had made to South Africa, and a keen interest in the work of Bnai Brith. The Prime Minister had wished him success in his

aim of a District Grand Lodge for this country. Mr. Joffes was the guest of honour at two Bnai Brith dinners in Cape Town last week. He also met Jewish students at Cape Town University and visited surrounding centres, where he laid the groundwork for new Bnai Brith Lodges.

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